

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 ABF-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /048 W

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R 250402Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1616

INFO US MISSION USUN 637

UNCLAS MANILA 3740

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG, ABUD, UN, RP

SUBJ: UN BUDGET: UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION CENTERS

REF: SECSTATE 057980

1. DESCRIPTION. UN INFORMATION CENTER MANILA ESTABLISHED AUGUST 1953, OCCUPIES 5 ROOMS METROPOLITAN BANK BUILDING IN SUBURBAN MAKATI. IT EMPLOYES 5 FILIPINOS; ONE LIBRARIAN, TWO SECRETARIES, ONE INFORMATION ASSISTANT (ACTING DIRECTOR) AND ONE MESSENGER/DRIVER. UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE TITULAR HEAD INFORMATION CENTER.

2. ACTIVITIES. CENTER FUNCTIONS AS UN PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE; PRINTS MONTHLY UN NEWS DIGEST CIRCULATED TO ALL MANILA AND MAJOR PROVINCIAL DAILIES AND TO SELECTED HIGH SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY. ALSO ISSUES PRESS RELEASES ON MAJOR UN EVENTS -- UN DAY, HUMAN RIGHTS DAY, POPULATION YEAR, ETC. CENTER ALSO MAINTAINS LIBRARY OF UN BOOKS, PUBLICATIONS AND PERIODICALS NUMBERING SOME 8 - 10,000. LIBRARIAN ESTIMATES APPROXIMATELY 2,500 PEOPLE -- MOSTLY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS-- USE LIBRARY EVERY YEAR. SECOND MAJOR GROUP USER IS PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT AND THIRD IS PHILIPPINE BUSINESS COMMUNITY. BOTH GROUPS DRAW HEAVILY ON UN STATISTICS KEPT BY CENTER.

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3. EVALUATION. CENTER AND ITS ACTIVITIES VIRTUALLY

UNKNOWN TO US MISSION. ITS FILM LOANS, PRESS RELEASES
AND TELEPHONE INQUIRIES WOULD APPEAR TO BE MOST ACTIVE
ELEMENTS OF ITS PROGRAM. LIBRARY ANNUAL ATTENDANCE OF
2,500 MOSTLY SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN COULD BE COMPARED
TO 175,000 AT USIS LIBRARY OR 20,000 -- LARGELY GRADUATE
STUDENTS -- AT MAGSAYSAY FOUNDATION'S ASIAN LIBRARY.
HOWEVER, ITS COMPLETE COLLECTION OF UN PUBLICATIONS IS
NOT DUPLICATED ELSEWHERE IN PHILIPPINES AND ITS LABOR
AND POPULATION CONTROL STATISTICS ARE USED EXTENSIVELY BY
GOP. CENTER'S MAJOR PROBLEM SEEMS TO BE INVISIBILITY;
MOST PEOPLE UNAWARE IT EXISTS AND LOCATION IN SUBURBAN
BUSINESS CENTER FURTHER ISOLATES IT FROM POTENTIAL USERS.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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